



GENERAL ASSEMBLY

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

2013 REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 45

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2013

The following joint resolution was reported to the Senate from the House and ordered to be printed.

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ALISON LUNDERGAN GRIMES
SECRETARY OF STATE
COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
BY L. Adler

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION honoring the memory of a great Kentuckian, Charles
2 Floyd, who was a member of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, and declaring August 20,
3 2013, as Sergeant Charles Floyd Day in the Commonwealth.

4 WHEREAS, Charles Floyd was born in Louisville, Kentucky, in approximately
5 1782, and grew up in Floyd's Station, which is the present-day St. Matthews
6 neighborhood. He would have had a typical frontier childhood, farming and working the
7 land his family owned along Beargrass Creek; and

8 WHEREAS, on July 18, 1803, William Clark agreed to Meriwether Lewis's
9 invitation to journey to the Pacific and began recruiting men for the expedition; and

10 WHEREAS, by August 1, 1803, Charles Floyd was one of the first three men
11 selected to be part of what Lewis and Clark called the Corps of Discovery. Charles Floyd
12 received his official enlistment into the United States Army when he became a part of the
13 group that left on their historic journey from the Falls of the Ohio on October 26, 1803;
14 and

15 WHEREAS, at the young age of 21, Charles Floyd was considered a "young man of
16 much merit" by Captain Meriwether Lewis, who deemed him responsible enough to
17 promote him to the rank of Sergeant on April 3, 1804. Sergeant Charles Floyd served as
18 quartermaster in the Lewis and Clark Expedition, and was one of many members who
19 kept a journal about their travels; and

20 WHEREAS, Sergeant Charles Floyd became ill in July 1804 of what many today
21 believe to be appendicitis, and died on August 20, 1804, in what is present-day Sioux
22 City, Iowa; and

23 WHEREAS, the members of the Lewis and Clark Expedition honored Sergeant
24 Charles Floyd's service with a burial that included the "honors of war" and William Clark
25 noted in his journal that "this man at all times gave us proofs of his firmness and
26 determined resolve to do service to his country and honor to himself." They buried him
27 along a bluff of the Missouri River and erected a cedar post as monument to their fallen

1 comrade; and

2 WHEREAS, Sergeant Charles Floyd, being one of the famous "Nine Young Men
3 from Kentucky" recruited by Lewis and Clark for their historic journey, was the first
4 American soldier known to have died in the service of his country west of the Mississippi
5 River;

6 NOW, THEREFORE,


7 *Be it resolved by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:*

8 ➔Section 1. The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky honors
9 the service and sacrifice of a true Kentucky hero, Sergeant Charles Floyd, for his role in
10 the Lewis and Clark Expedition.


11 ➔Section 2. The General Assembly does hereby declare August 20, 2013, as
12 Sergeant Charles Floyd Day in the Commonwealth of Kentucky and encourages citizens
13 to join in the celebration and learn more about Sergeant Charles Floyd, the Lewis and
14 Clark Expedition, and the other Kentuckians who were a part of that historic journey.



Speaker-House of Representatives



President of Senate

Attest: 

Chief Clerk of House of Representatives

Approved 

Governor

Date 3-22-13